

REMARKS


The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, the claims have been amended for clarity.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,646,608 to Shintani. The Examiner has further rejected claims 1-6, 12 and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,160,491 to Kitao et al. Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner has found claims 7-11, 17 and 18 allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the above changes, Applicants believe that the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. 1029b) rejections have been overcome.

Applicants believe that this application, containing claims 7-13, 17 and 18, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

by 
Edward W. Goodman, Reg. 28,613
Attorney
Tel.: 914-333-9611